



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2016-1059]

Towing Safety Advisory Committee; December 2017 Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Towing Safety Advisory Committee and its Subcommittees will meet in New Orleans, Louisiana to review and discuss recommendations from its Subcommittees and to receive briefs on items listed in the agenda under

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. All meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: *Meetings.* The Subcommittees of the Towing Safety Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to conduct working group sessions. The full Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. These meetings may end early if the Committee has completed its business, or the meetings may be extended based on the number of public comments.

Comments and supporting documentation. Submit your comments no later than November 21, 2017.

ADDRESSES: All meetings will be held at the Omni Riverfront Hotel, 701 Convention Center Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130;
[https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/new-orleans-riverfront.](https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/new-orleans-riverfront)

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as soon as possible.

Written comments must be submitted using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. If you encounter technical difficulties with comment submission, contact the individuals listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section below.

Instructions: You are free to submit comments at any time, including orally at the meetings, but if you want Committee members to review your comment before the meetings, please submit your comments no later than November 21, 2017. We are particularly interested in comments on the issues in the "Agenda" section below. You must include "Department of Homeland Security" and the docket number USCG-2016-1059. Comments received will be posted without alteration at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. You may

review the Privacy Act and Security Notice for the Federal Docket Management System at <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice>

Docket Search: For access to the docket or to read documents or comments related to this notice, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, insert USCG-2016-1059 in the Search box, press Enter, and then click on the item you wish to view.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Commander Jose Perez, Designated Federal Officer of the Towing Safety Advisory Committee, Commandant (CG-OES-2), U.S. Coast Guard, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE. Stop 7509, Washington, DC 20593-7509; telephone 202-372-1410, fax 202-372-8382 or email jose.a.perez3@uscg.mil, or Mr. Kenneth Doyle, telephone 202-372-1363 or email kenneth.j.doyle@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is in compliance with the *Federal Advisory Committee Act*, Title 5 United States Code Appendix. The Towing Safety Advisory Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Department of Homeland Security on matters relating to shallow-draft inland and coastal waterway navigation and towing safety.

Agenda of Meetings

On December 5 and 6, 2017, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. the Towing Safety Advisory Committee and its subcommittees will meet to review, discuss, deliberate, and formulate recommendations, as appropriate, on the following:

(1) Current Subcommittees:

- a. Articulated Tug and Barge Operations and Manning
(Task 15-02)
- b. Subchapter M Implementation (Task 16-01)
- c. Inland Firefighting (Task 16-02)
- d. Towing Liquefied Natural Gas Barges (Task 16-03)
- e. Regulatory Reform (Task 17-01)

(2) Proposed New Subcommittee and Task

- a. Load Line Exemption for River Barges on Lakes Erie and Ontario (Task 17-02)

A copy of all meeting documentation, including any draft final reports, will be available at <https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/ports-and-waterways/safety-advisory-committees/tsac/meetings-minutes> no later than November 28, 2017. Alternatively, you may contact Mr. Kenneth Doyle as noted in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

Public comments or questions will be taken throughout the meeting as the committee discusses the issues and prior

to deliberations and voting. There will also be a public comment period at the end of the meeting. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to 3 minutes. Please note that the public comment period may end before the period allotted, following the last call for comments.

Contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above to register as a speaker.

Dated: 23 October 2017.

Jeffrey G. Lantz,
Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards.
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